

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Atsushi NAGAHARA et al.

Application No.: New US Application

Filed: December 17, 2003

Docket No.: 117978

For: LAYOUT SYSTEM, LAYOUT PROGRAM, AND LAYOUT METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. Relevance of the non-English language references is discussed in the present specification.
- ☒ 3. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto.
- ☒ 4. The present application was filed or entered the U.S. National Stage of the PCT after June 30, 2003. In accordance with the June 11, 2003, Notice waiving the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.
- ☒ 5. Computer-generated English translations of the following Japanese Patent Publication have been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office (<http://www.jpo.go.jp>), and are attached, but have not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 5-6.

Respectfully submitted,



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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 117978	APPLICATION NO. New US Application
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS Atsushi NAGAHARA et al.	
				FILING DATE December 17, 2003	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS
	1	10/608,567	06/30/2003	OHASHI et al.	
	2	20020165937	11/07/2002	Nitta et al.	
	3	20020144226	10/03/2002	Nitta et al.	
	4	20020140982	10/03/2002	Nitta et al.	
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	SUB CLASS
	5	JP A 2002-297572 (with abstract and translation)	10/11/2002	Japan	
	6	JP A 06-149794 (with abstract and translation)	05/31/1994	Japan	
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)					
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.					

Date: December 17, 2003